



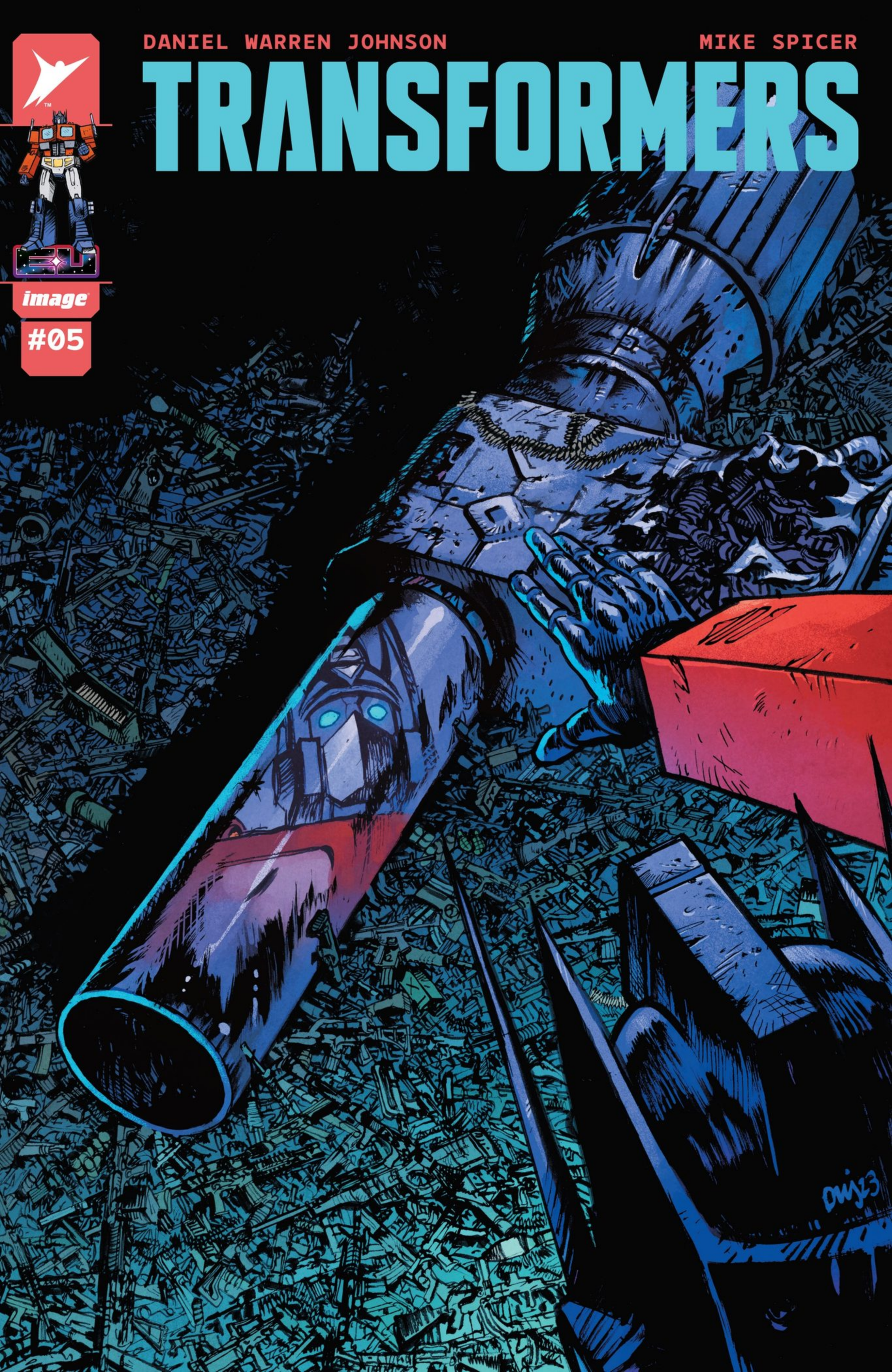
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#05

DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON

MIKE SPICER

TRANSFORMERS



01/23

TRANSFORMERS

ISSUE FIVE

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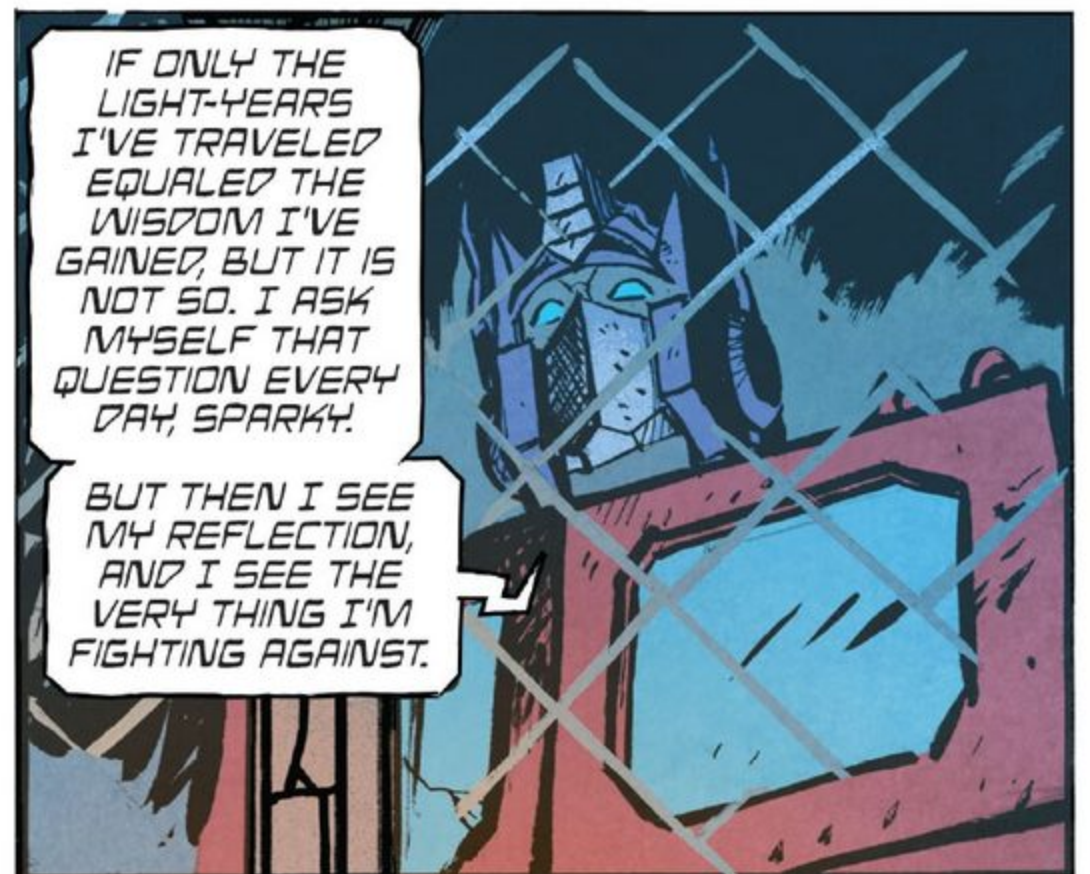
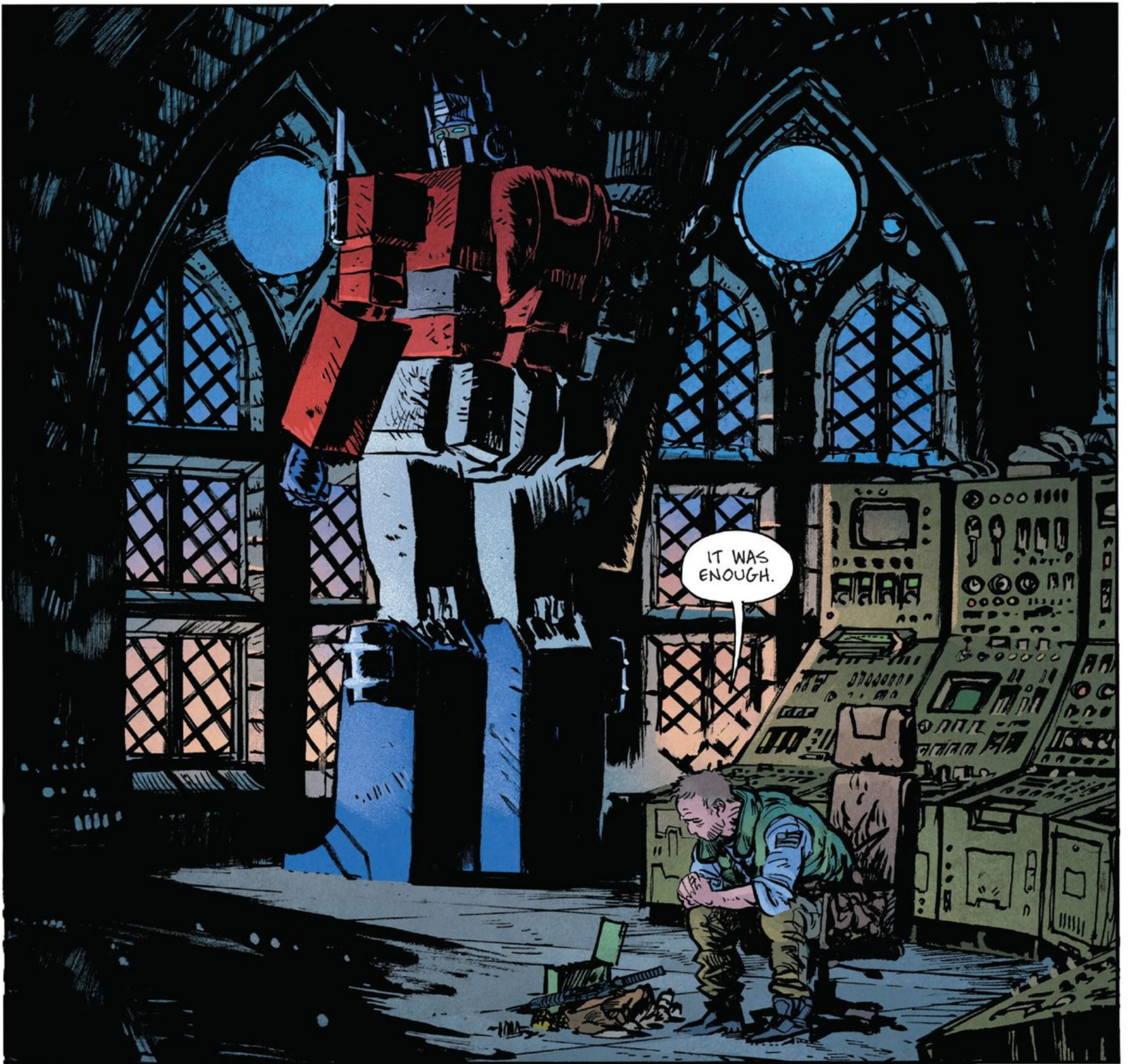


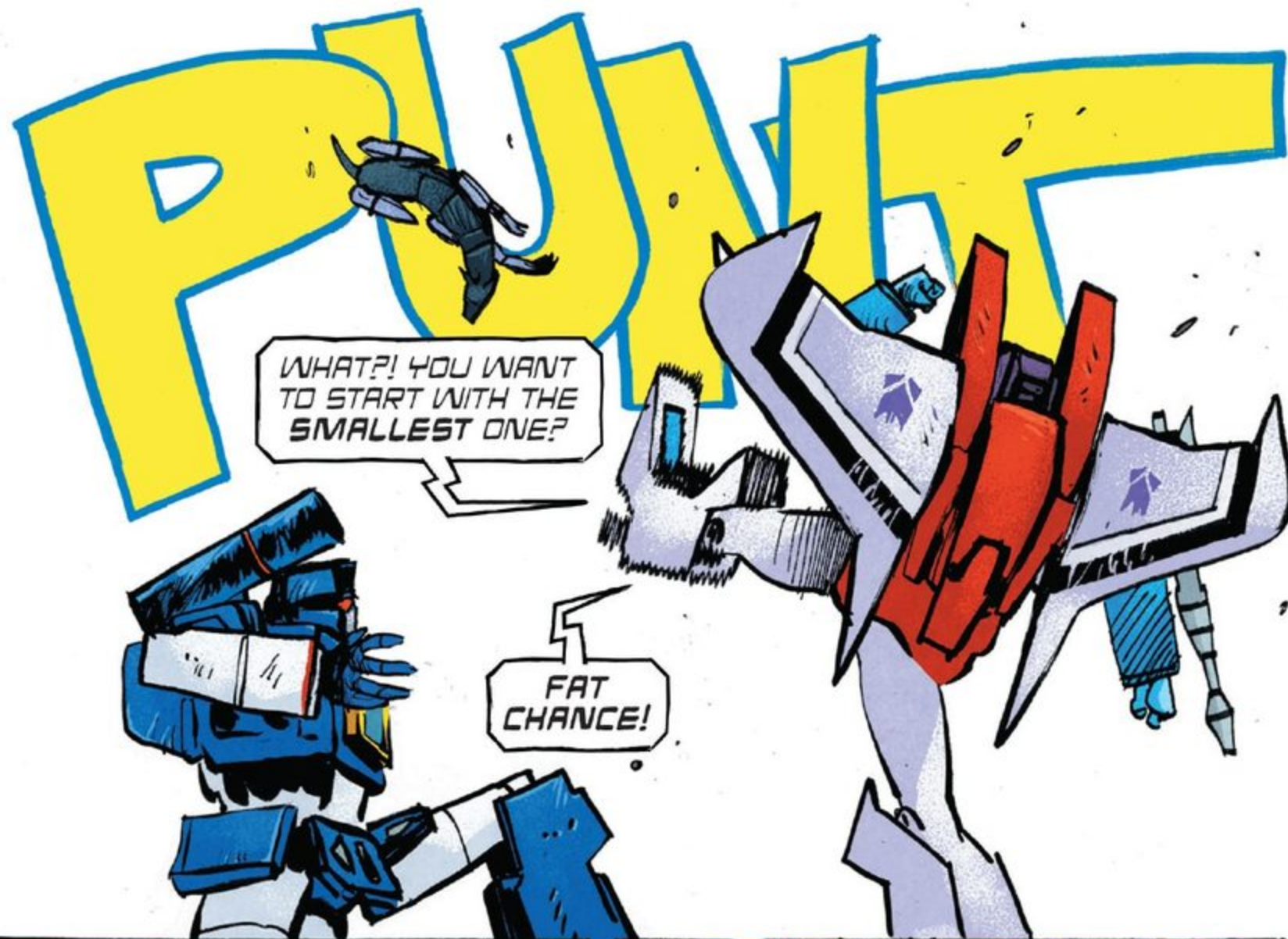


"HOW LONG WAS
YOUR WAR?"



"JUST ONE
TOUR."







I CONCUR
WITH MY
SMALL
FRIEND.

FRENZY!
REFLECTOR!

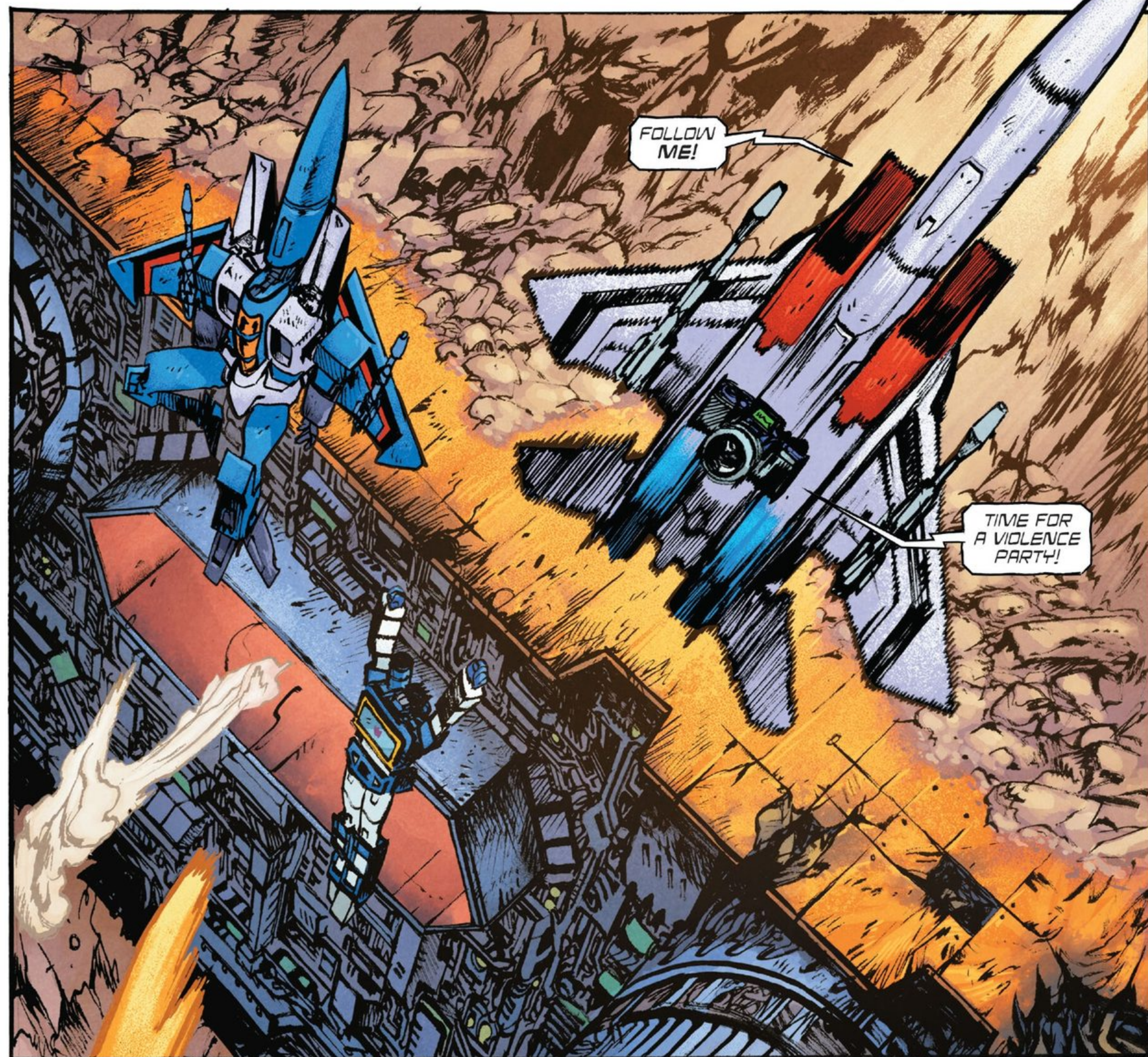


IT IS GOOD
TO BE BACK
IN FOCUS,
STARSCREAM!
WHERE IS
MEG--



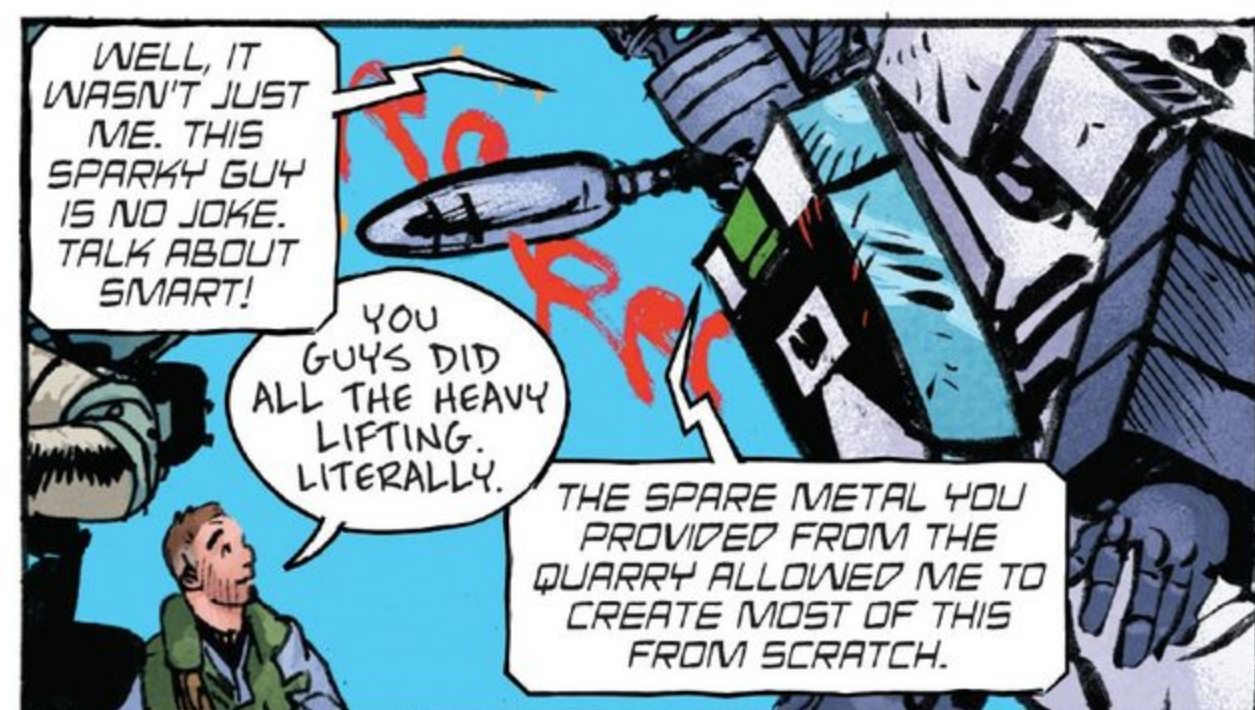
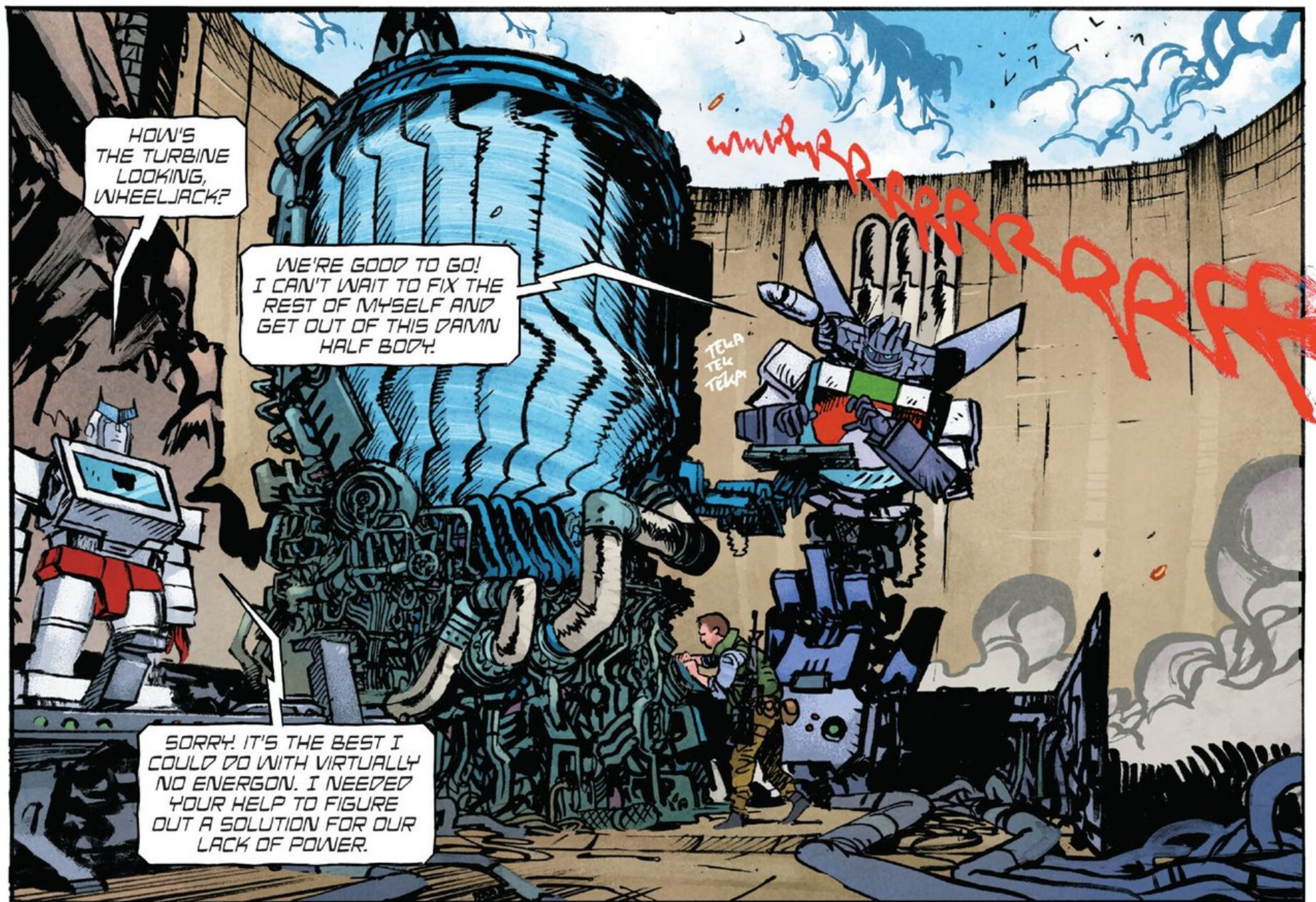
STAY FOCUSED ON THE **ENEMY**,
REFLECTOR! THESE FILTHY AUTOBOTS
WANT TO TAKE WHAT MAKES OUR
PISTONS MOVE FREELY!

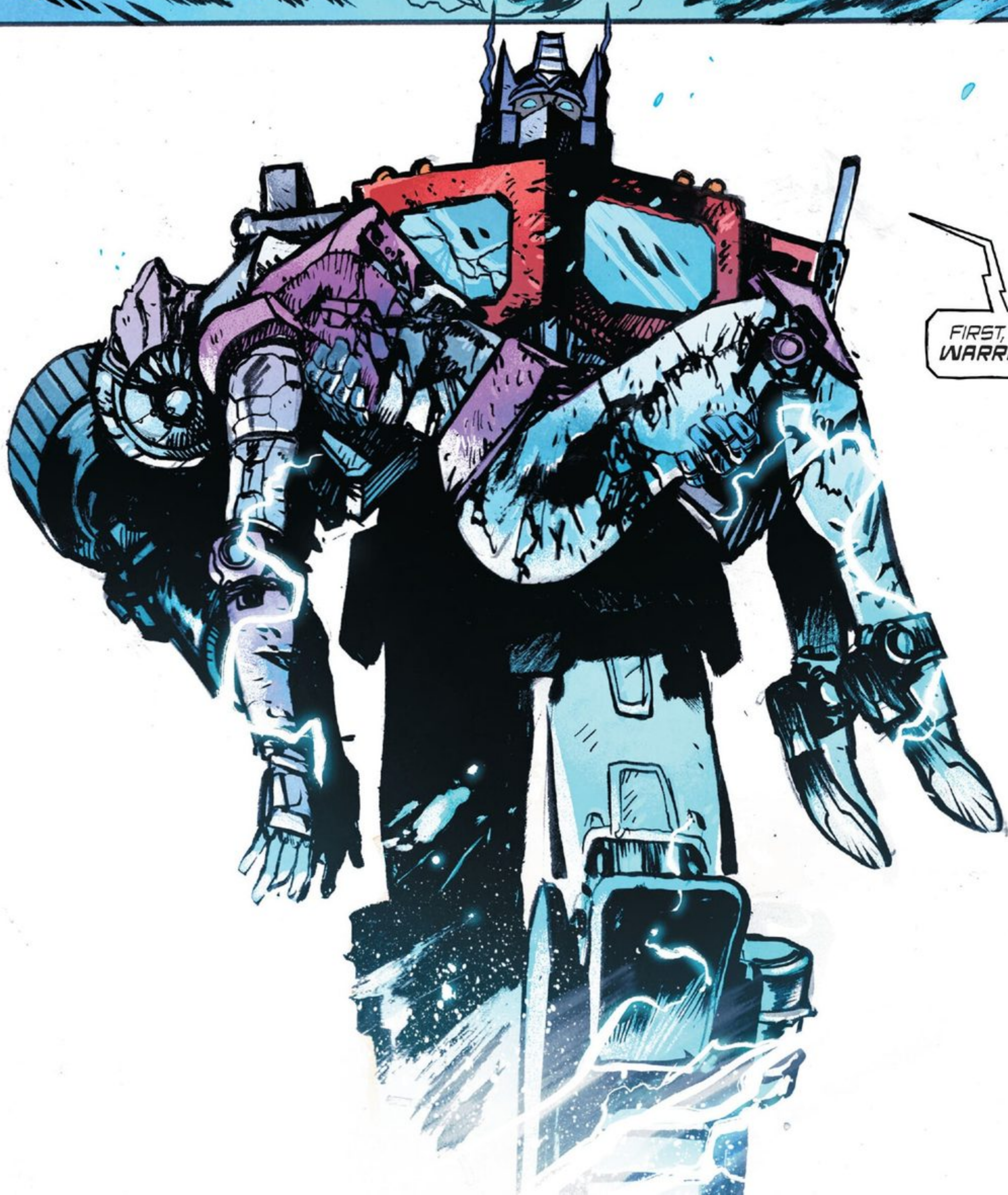
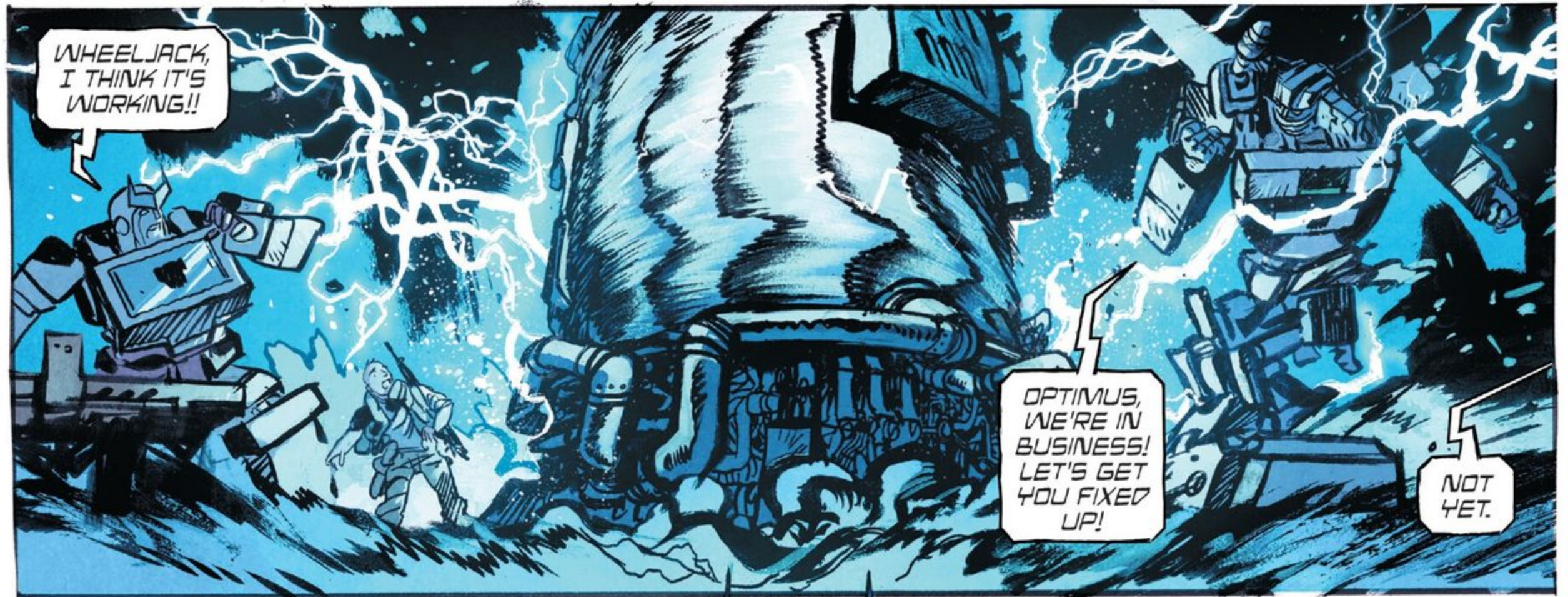
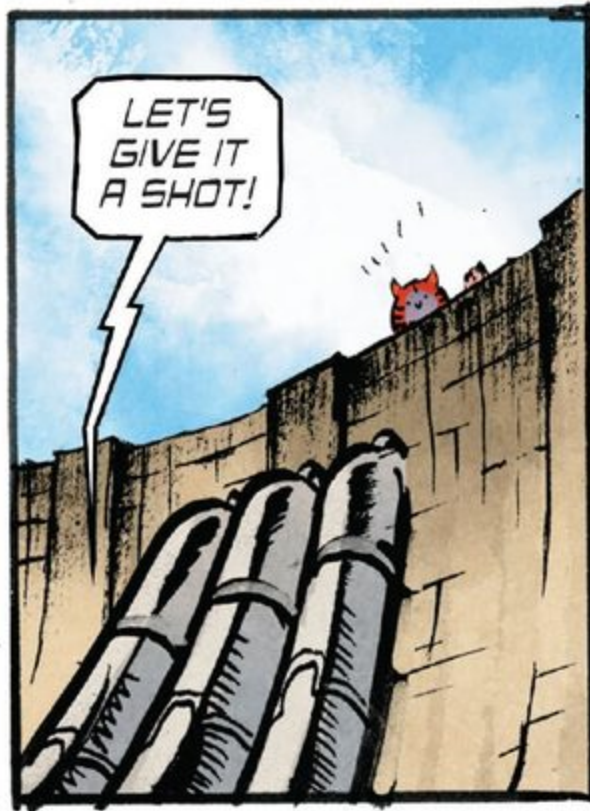
LET US FINALLY WIPE THEM
OUT FOR GOOD, AND TAKE THIS
TREASURE TROVE OF A PLANET
FOR OUR VICIOUS PLEASURE!

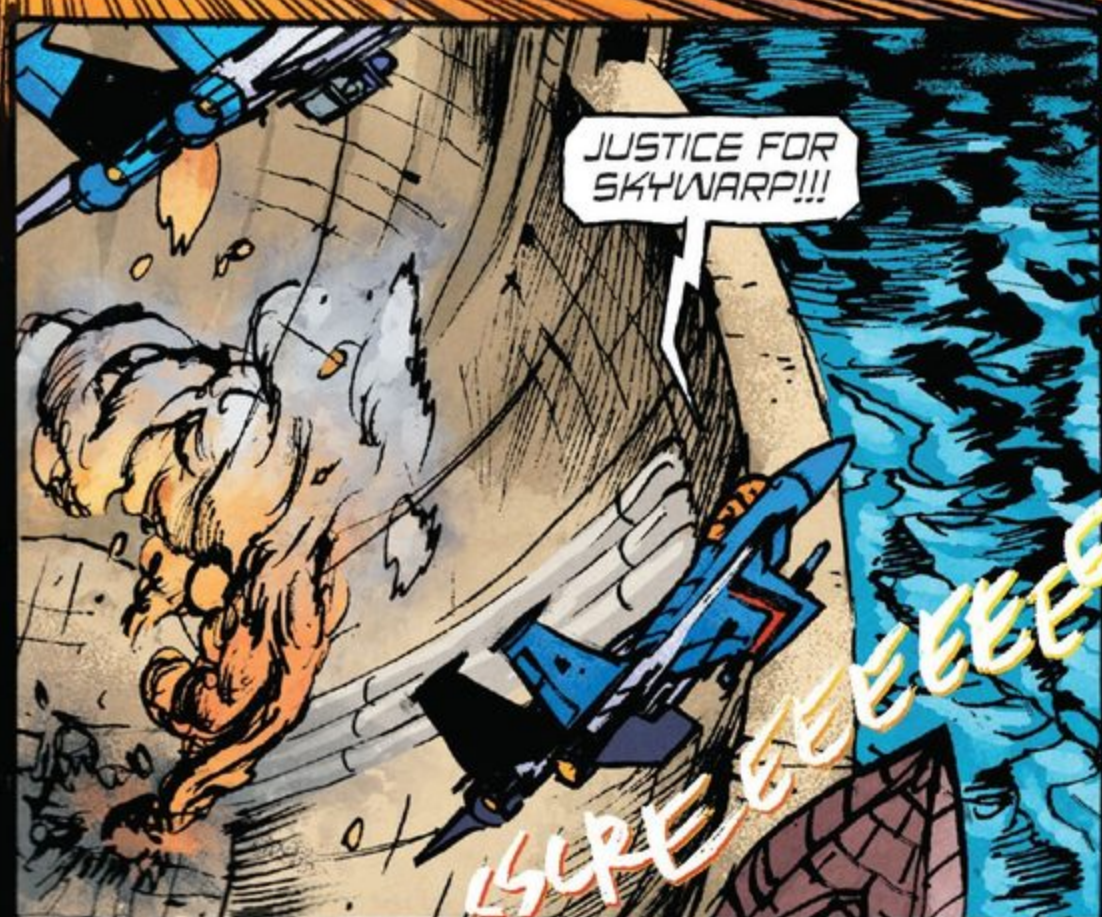


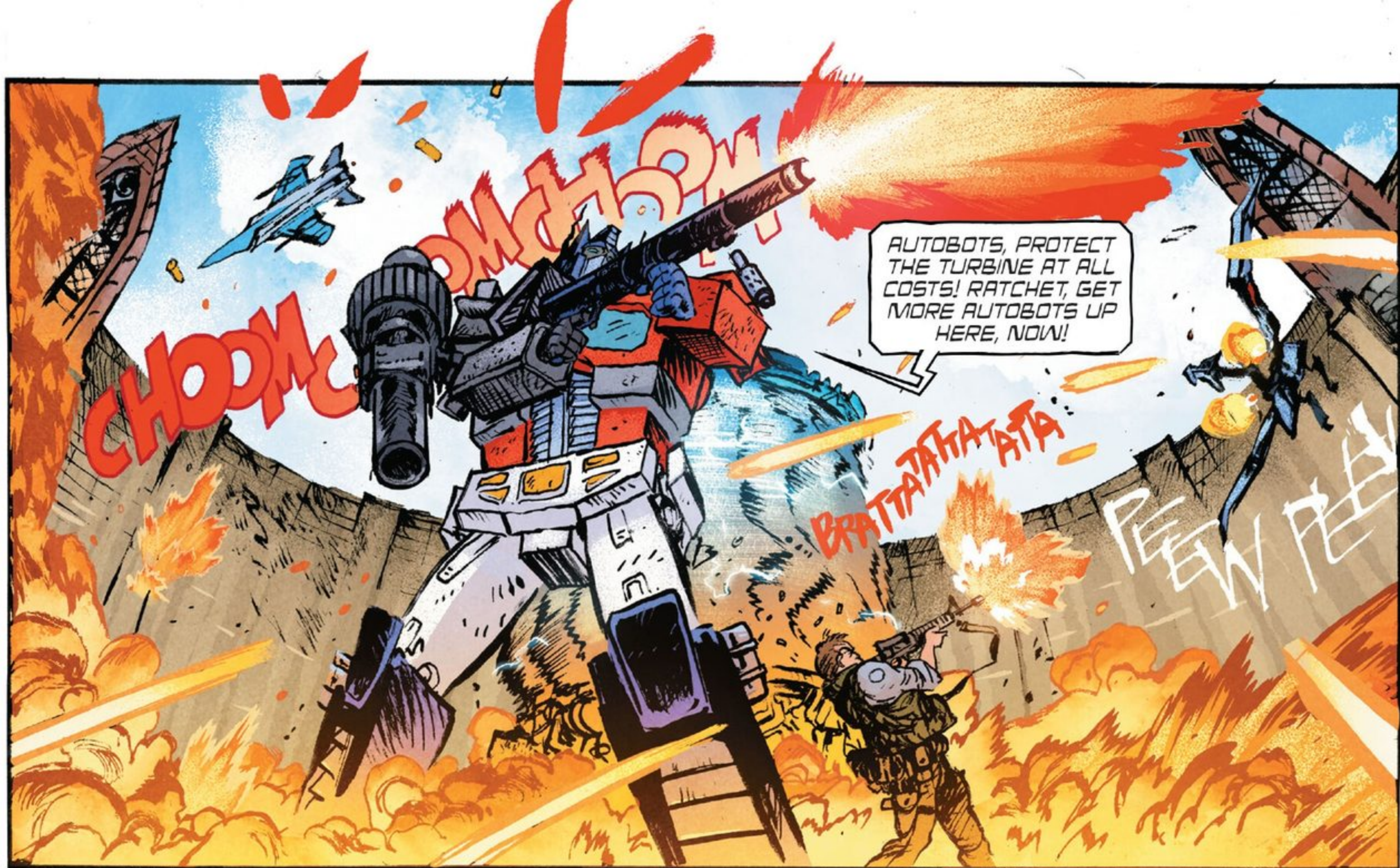
FOLLOW
ME!

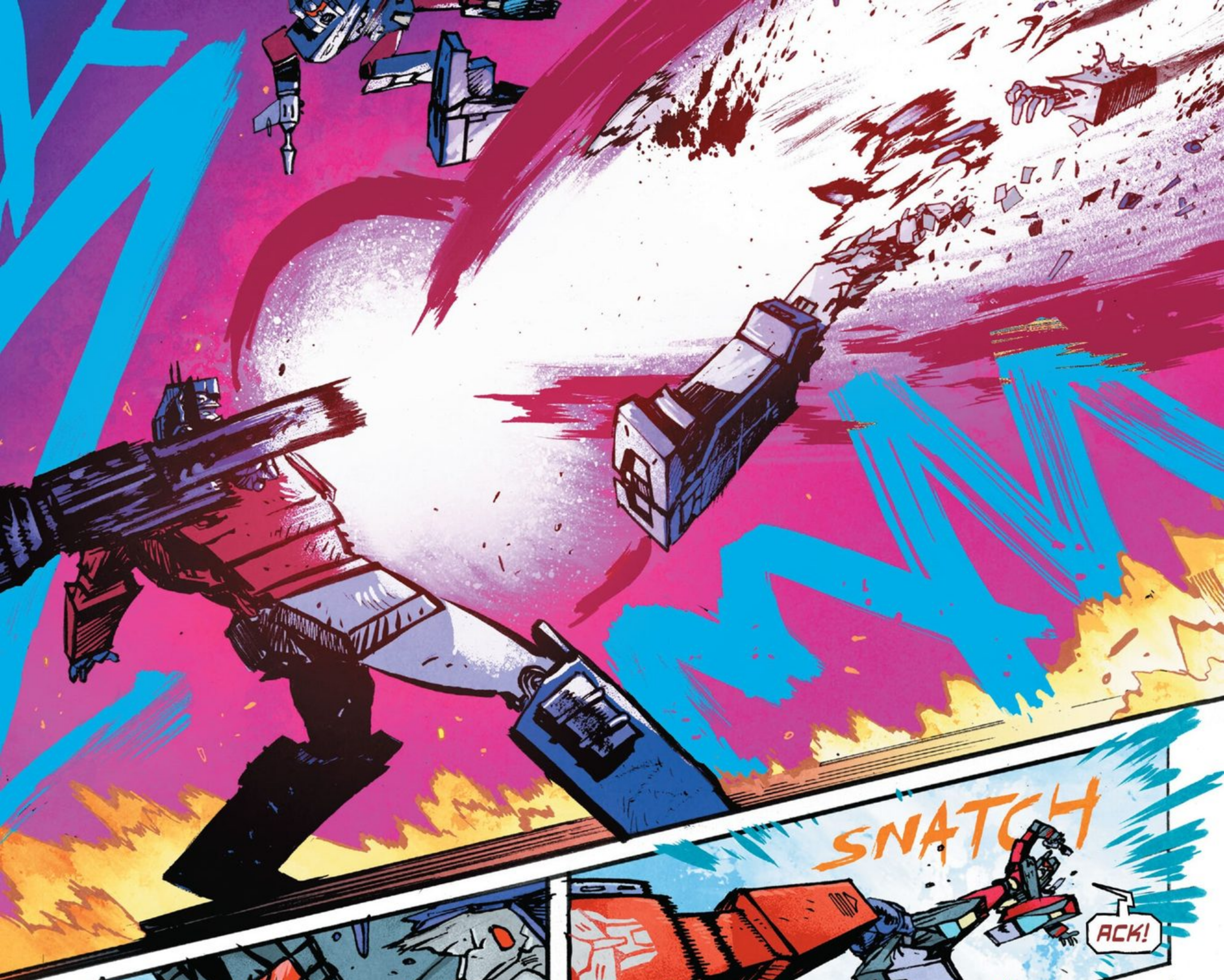
TIME FOR
A VIOLENCE
PARTY!











SNATCH

ACK!



REFLECTOR--
BUDDY!



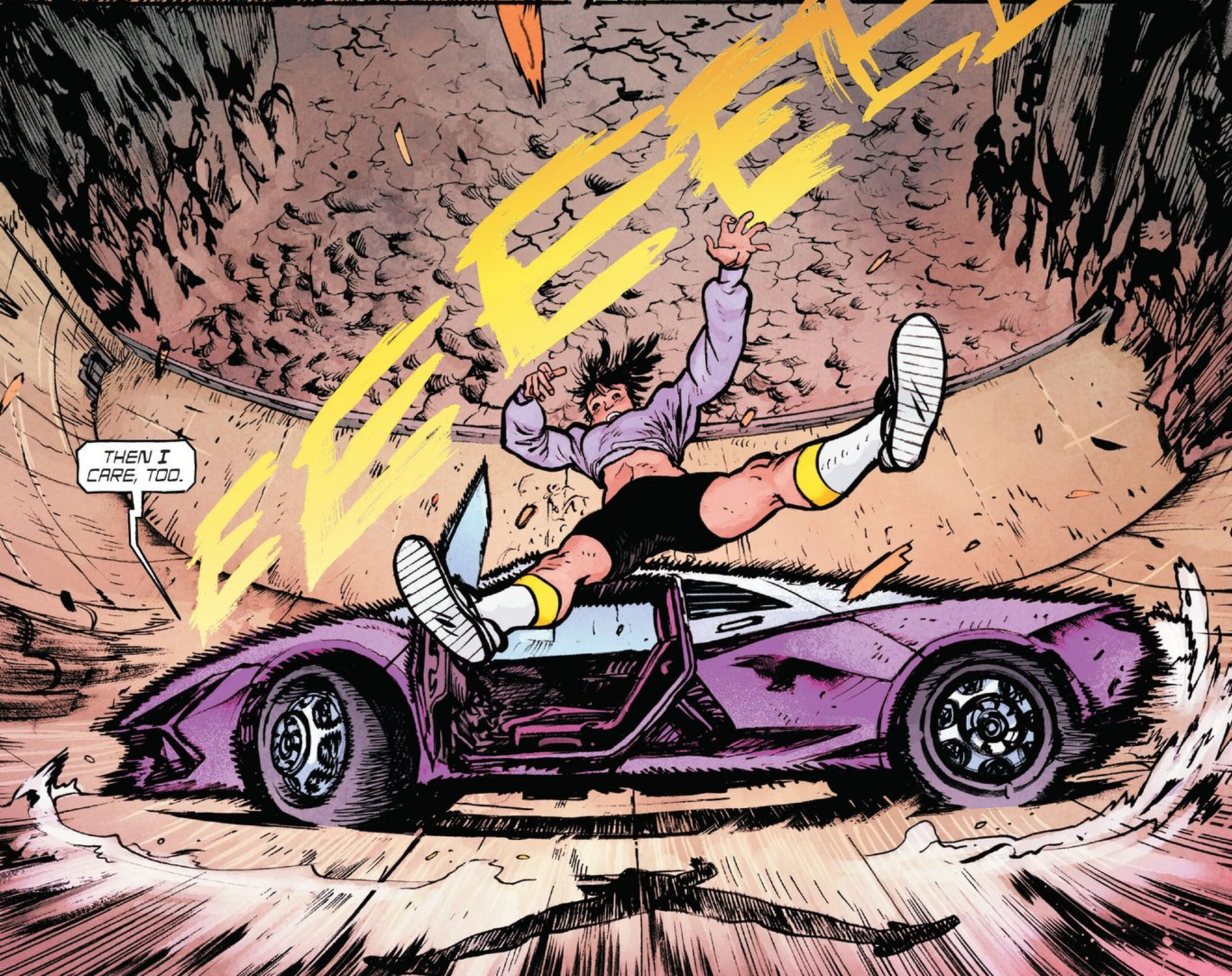
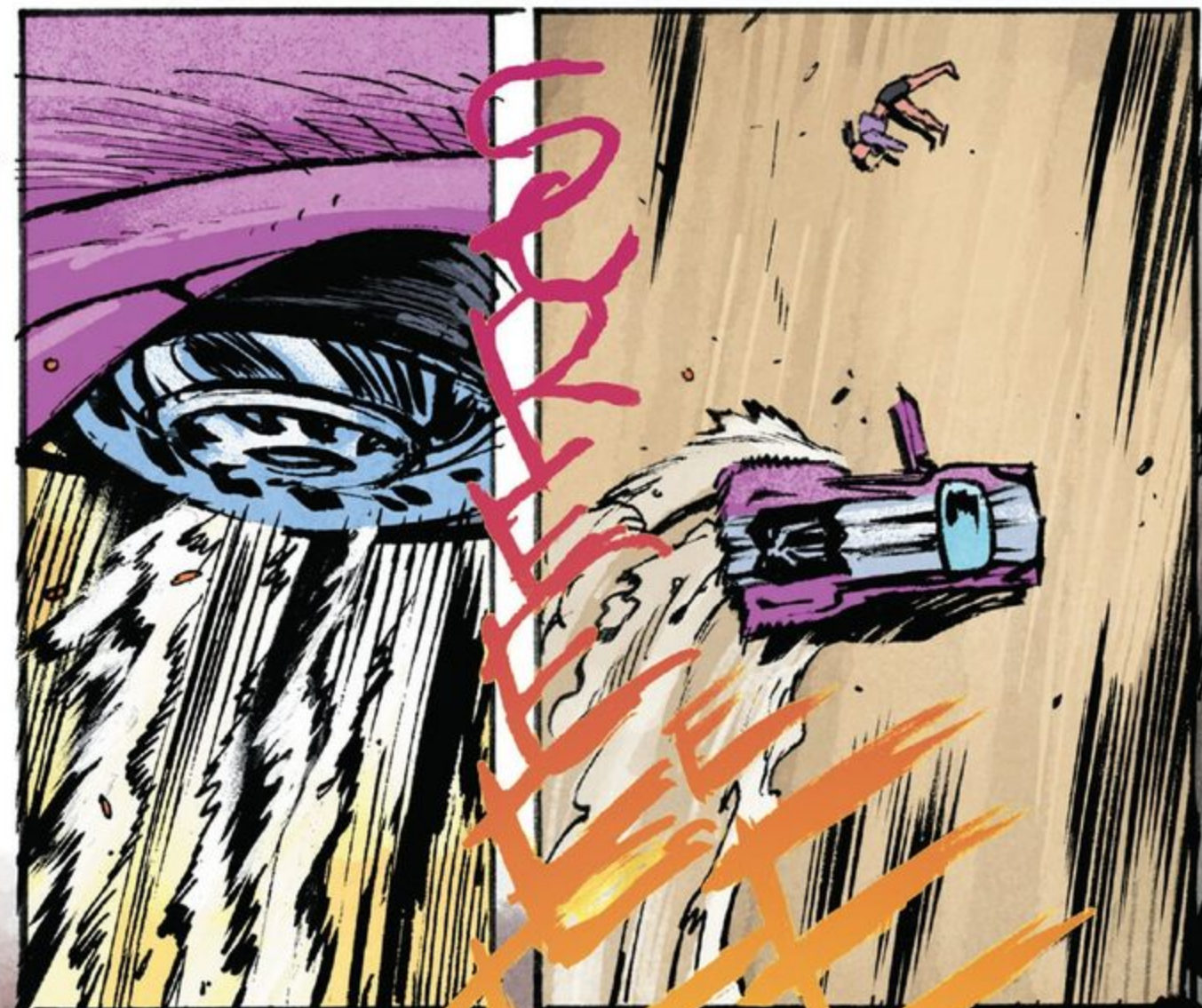




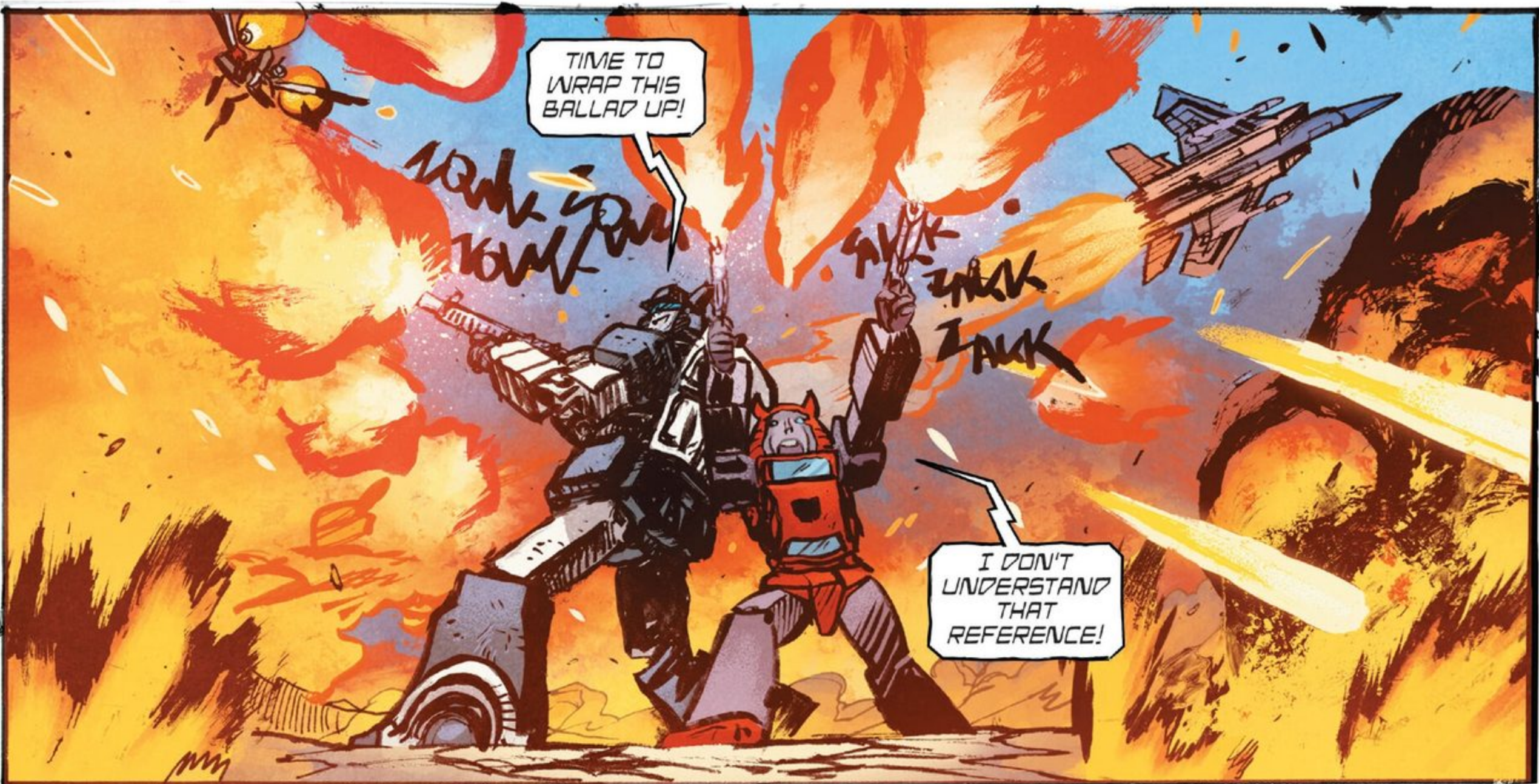
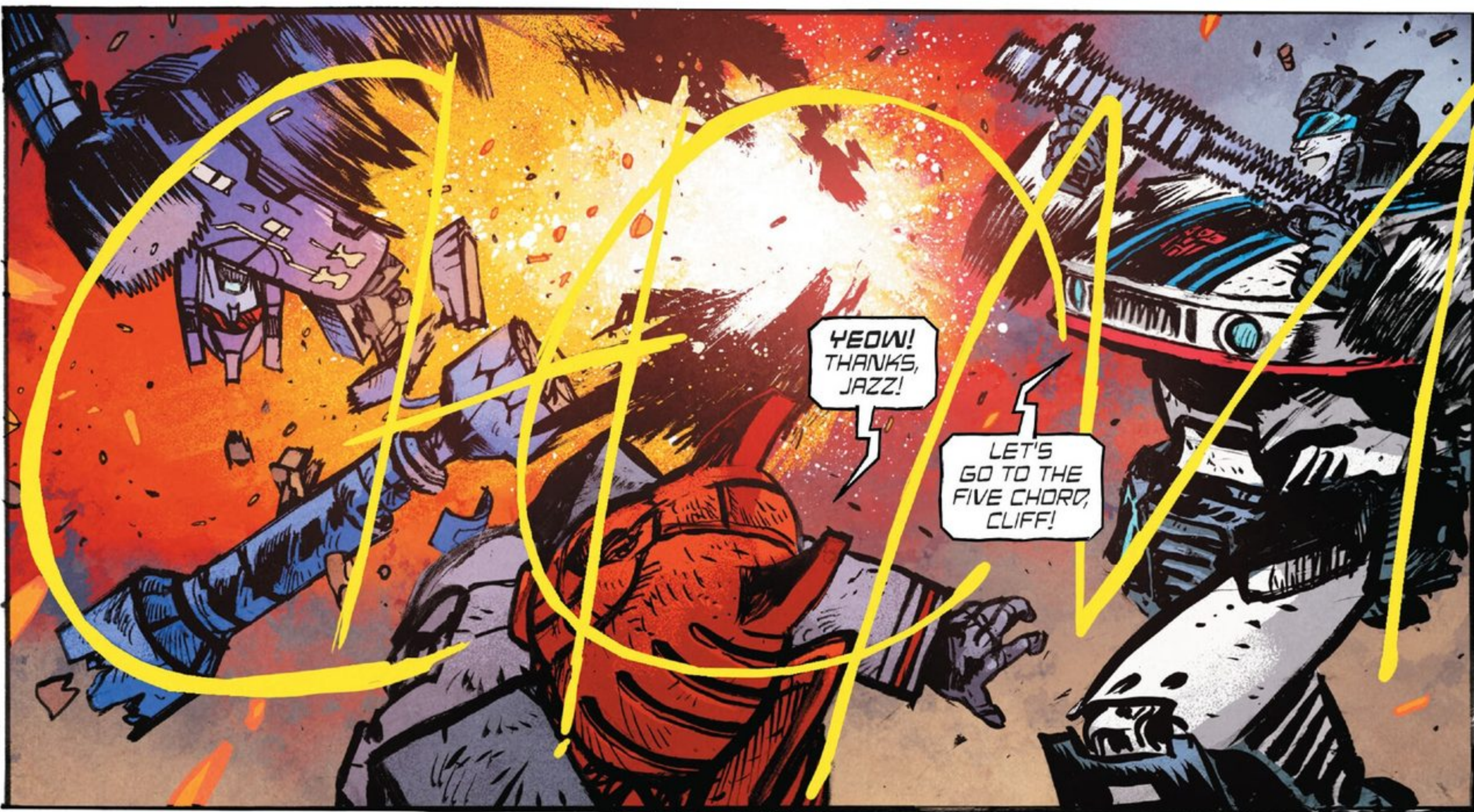
I DON'T
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE...



BUT IF
OPTIMUS
CARES ABOUT
YOU--

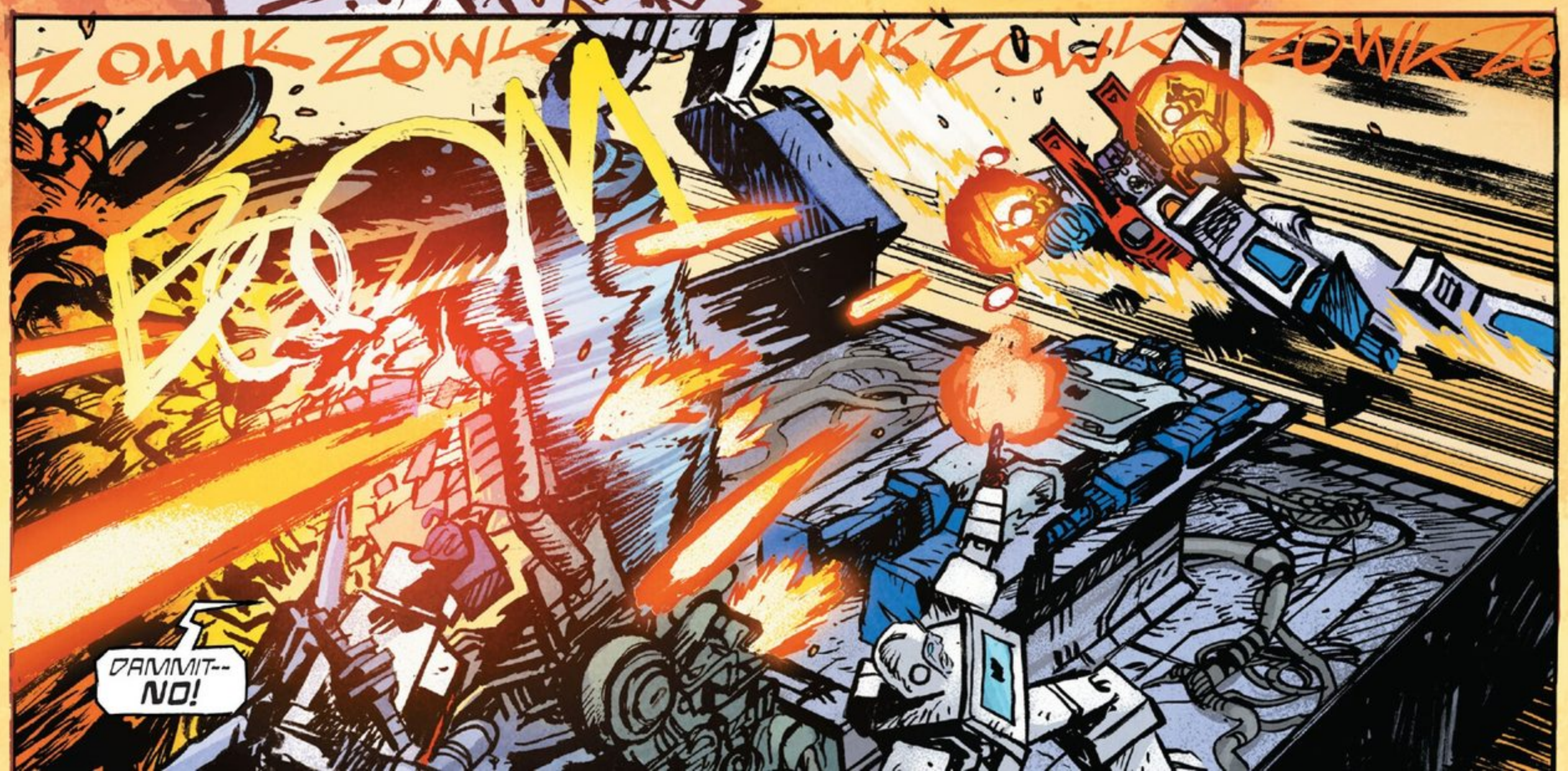


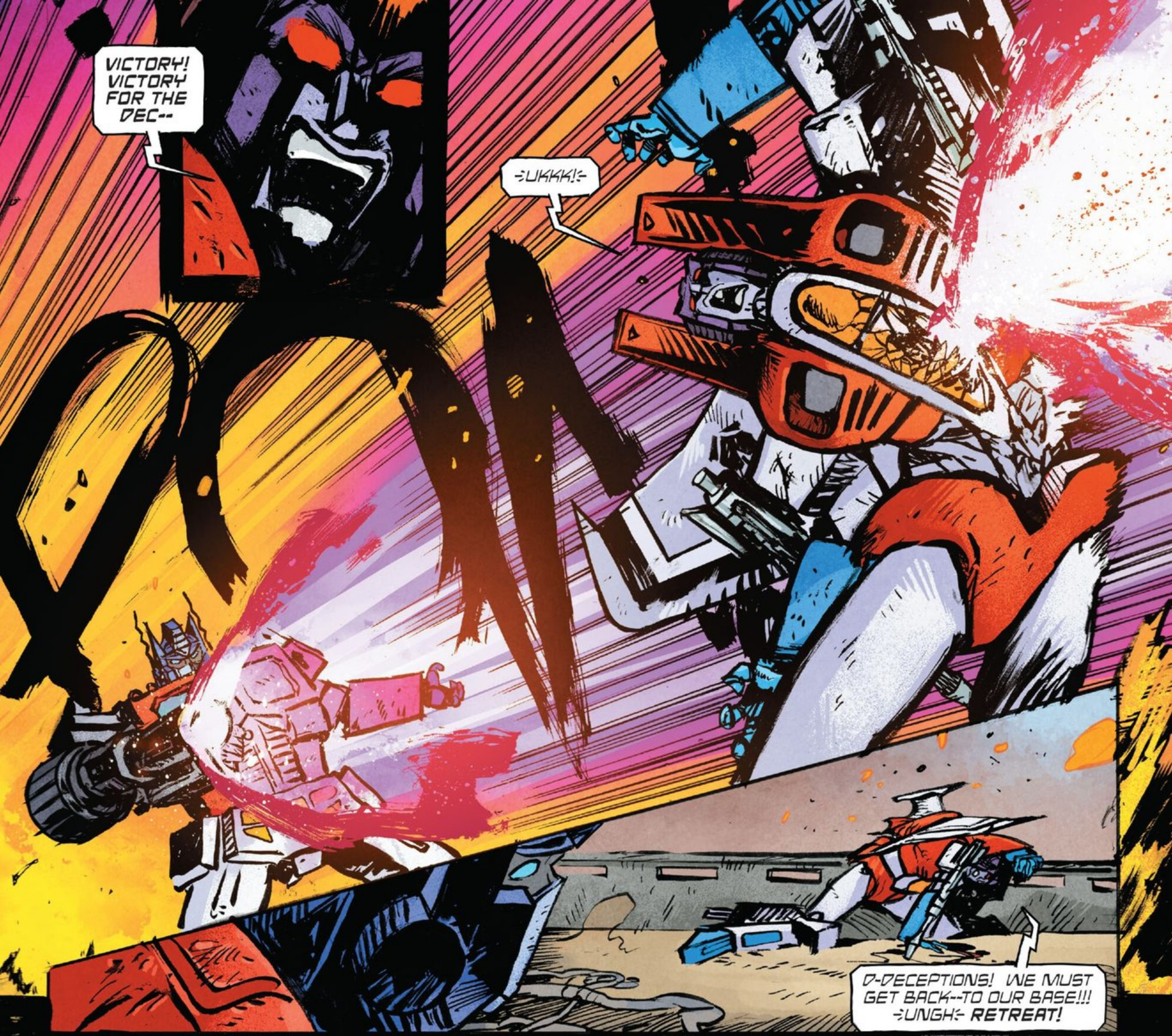
THEN I
CARE, TOO.





"PRECIOUS"?
ARE YOU SURE
THIS DOESN'T
MAKE YOU QUAKE
IN YOUR JETS,
STARSCREAM?





VICTORY!
VICTORY
FOR THE
DEC--

=LUKKK!=-

D-DECEPTIONS! WE MUST
GET BACK--TO OUR BASE!!!
=UNGH= RETREAT!



THIS IS GOING
TO TAKE A LONG
WHILE TO FIX,
I'M AFRAID.

BUT FINALLY, OUR
NUMBERS ARE IN
OUR FAVOR AGAINST
THE DECEPTICONS.



THEY'RE ON
THEIR BACK
JETS.



"NOW IS OUR
CHANCE TO
RETAKE THE
ARK."



COUNT
US IN,
PRIME!

AUTOBOTS,
LET'S--



NOT WITHOUT ME, YOU DON'T.

YOU CAN'T COME WITH US, CARLY. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU--

THEN SO WHAT? SPIKE'S IN A COMA. MY FAMILY'S GONE. I DESERVE TO SEE THIS TO THE END, SPARKY.

NOT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO SPIKE. YOU'RE TOO PRECIOUS TO US. TO ALL OF US.

BU--



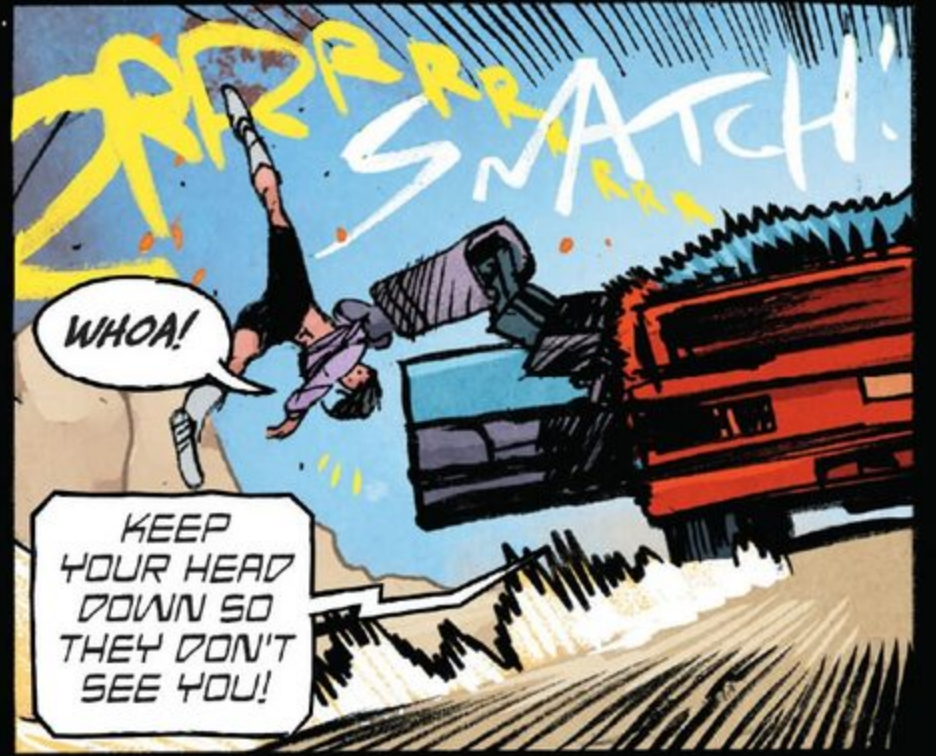
I'M SORRY, CARLY.

NO--

ROLL OUT! FOR CYBERTRON, AND FOR EARTH!



WAIT. PLEASE.



WHOA!

KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN SO THEY DON'T SEE YOU!



CLIFF, WHAT--

YOU'RE RIGHT, CARLY. YOU SHOULD BE THERE WHEN WE FINALLY STOP THE DECEPTICONS FOR GOOD.

click

"ENGAGING
TACTICAL
SCANS..."

LOOKS LIKE
THERE'S A
DRIVABLE PATH TO
THE LEFT BAY
DOORS! FOLLOW
ME!

IS THAT...
YOURS?

YES.

THE VESSEL
THAT BROUGHT
US TO YOUR
PLANET.

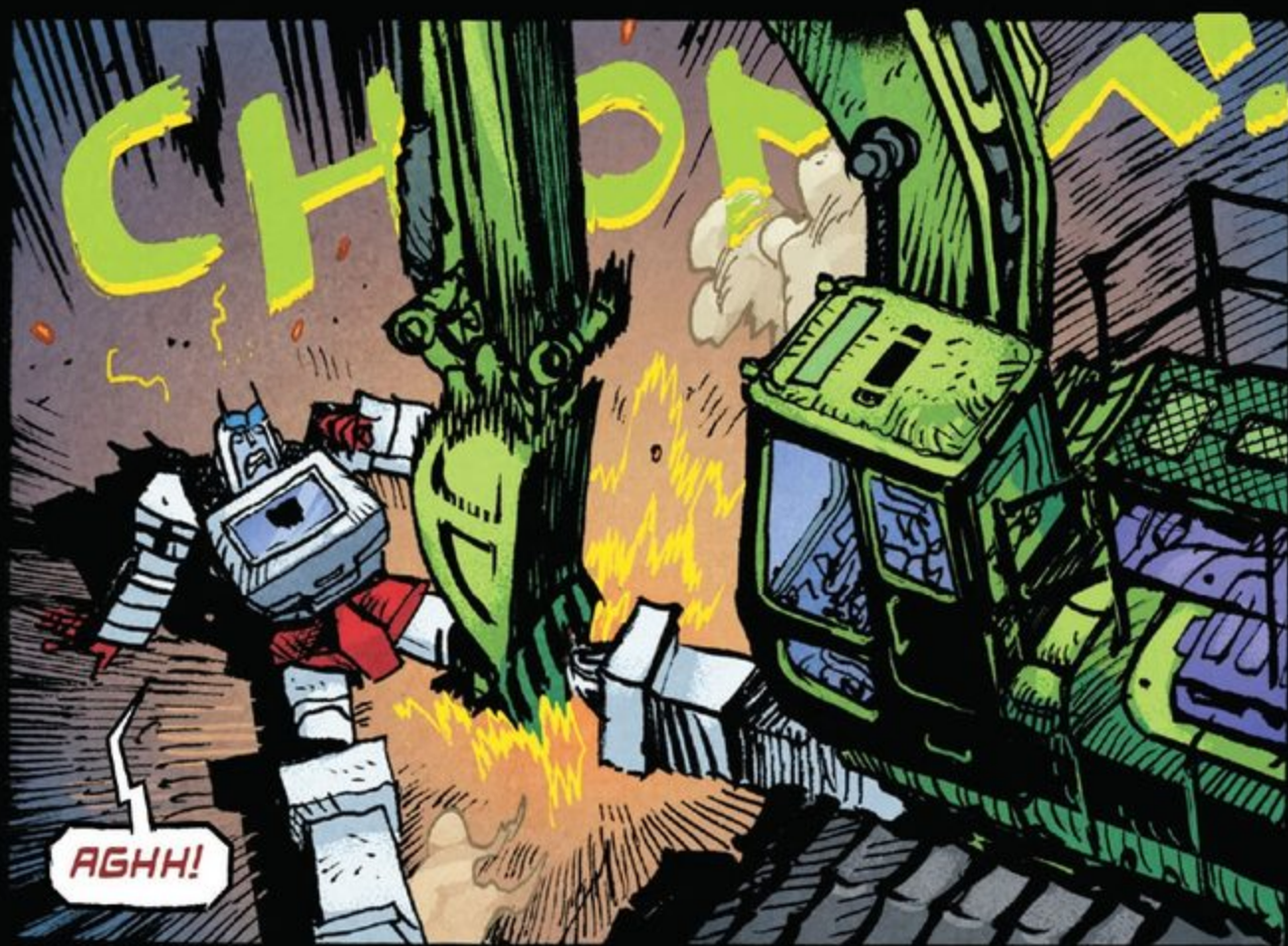
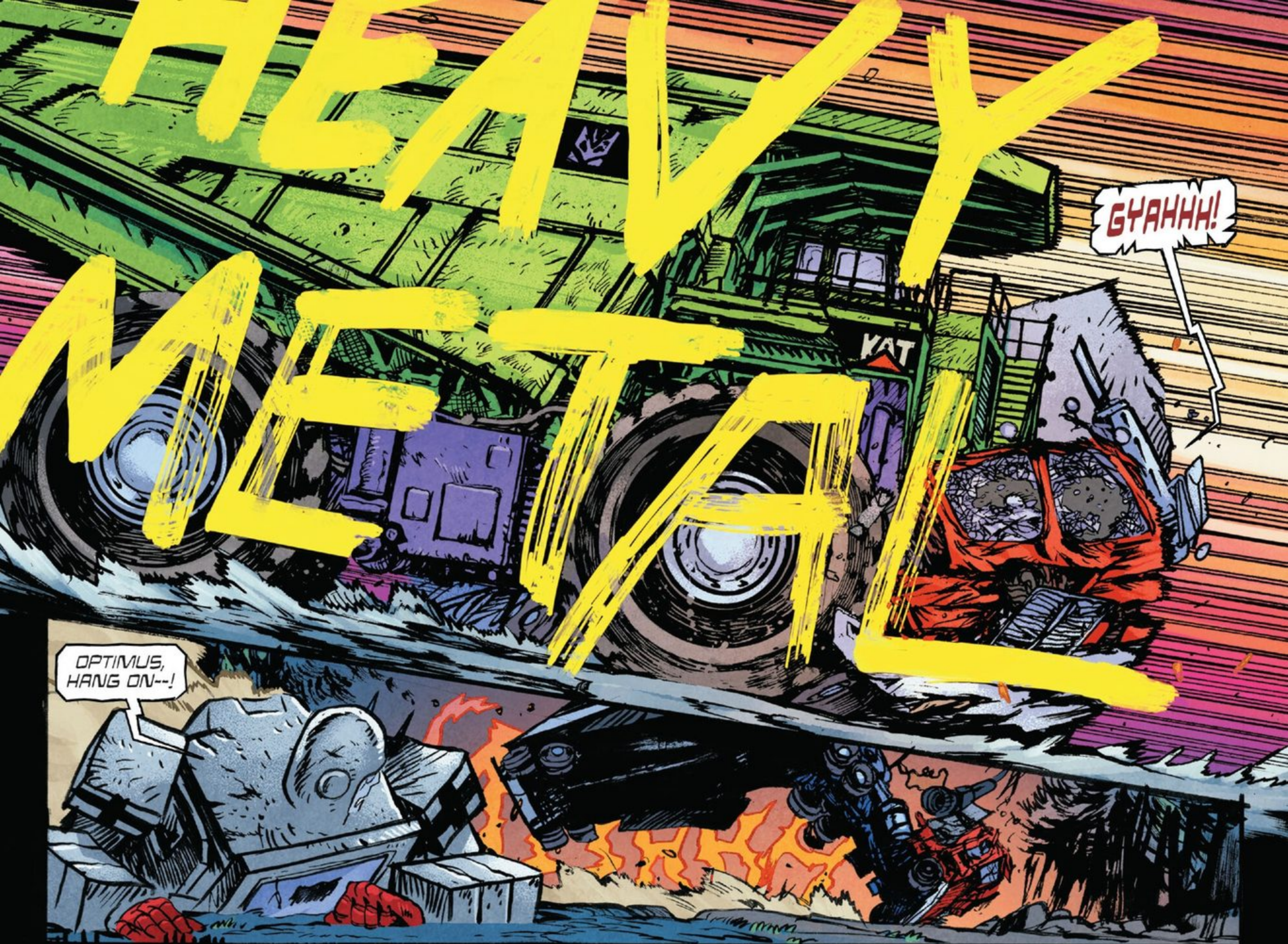
TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF
UP THERE,
JIMMY.

"ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
SPARKY?"

I--

OPTIMUS!
WE GOT
INCOM--

WHAT--?



HEE KA HOO KA CHK KHEE KA CHUVA





DEVASTATOR!

TO BE CONTINUED...

Howdy, folks!

Welcome back to the TRANSFORMERS letters column. And, if you're reading this on the day it hits shelves: Happy Valentine's Day! Hey, maybe you're even gifting this to a certain special fan in your life (alongside your own copy of course haha). And what's more romantic than bringing back your best buds like Thundercracker and Reflecto—Oh, sorry Reflector fans. Anywho, it's the penultimate issue of Arc 1 of TRANSFORMERS (already?!). Devastator is on the scene, the boss battle is imminent. I hope you're all appropriately flipping your lids. Let's answer some mail, Dan!

Hey friends! Issue four just came out a few days ago, and the response has been amazing, so thank you for your continued excitement about this series. I think we should have a read along with Peter Cullen once the first trade paperback comes out. What do we think? Good idea? I thought so! On to letters!



Hey team!

Just finished reading issue #4 and, man, "knocked it out of the park" doesn't even come close to how rad it was! You totally got me with that Wheeljack cover tease, only to bring out Jazz to stunt on Starscream and Soundwave! I was ecstatic to see my favorite (after Tracks) autobot in action. Dan I just gotta say that what you're doing with the series is spectacular, bringing the bright G1 designs to a heavy-hitting story makes every panel ridiculously fun, and makes those brutal moments all the more brutal. I've never gotten to be a part of a monthly release like this and I want to thank you guys for giving me that experience, I'm walking into the local shop every month chomping at the bit for more, and every issue just gets better. Also! Letter Column names! I'm thinking "Mailroom of Leadership"? Maybe "Prime Time"? Whatever you

guys end up picking, I can't wait to see where the next month's issue goes!

Vincent from San Diego, Rolling Out.

Oh, I like PRIME TIME! Vincent, so glad you're able to enjoy this journey with us. It's great to get the immediate feedback with an ongoing like this and I can promise there will be MORE BROOTALITY to come!!!

Music to our ears, Vincent! Thank you for supporting your local comic shop. There's nothing like that Wednesday feeling! And some great recommendations for the letters column name! No matter how you slice it, it's always Prime Time when you're reading TRANSFORMERS.



Thanks DWJ, Spicer, Rus, & Jon,

The surprise rescue from Jazz: beating down the Decepticons and doing the classic 2-5-1 bass beat as he did it, was a moment. This whole series is full of moments that raise the roof!

Question: did Jazz's base beat completely wreck Rumble? I didn't see what happened to that ground thumper...

2nd Question: Will Spike become a Headmaster in order to survive?

Aaron

The Bronx, NYC

Spicy question, Aaron! While I'd say we're still far too fresh in this series to be introducing Headmasters, we love this kind of thinking and curiosity! There are so many avenues to explore the intersections between humans and Transformers. What I'll say is that, naturally, Dan already has jaw-dropping stuff planned in this

regard. You'll just have to keep on reading to watch the roof get raised even higher.

As much as I wish I had enough space on the page to include Rumble transforming back into Soundwave's chest, I do not. I think you may see him out and about again, though!



I've really latched onto the mystery of Megatron. Seeing him encased in ice set my mind racing for explanations, and I'm eager to see how he goes from Cobra Commander's sidearm to his rightful place as Deception leader! My question is, how do you coordinate these different storylines with the other writers?

Thomas

We've got to keep y'all on your toes, don't we? We're stoked for Megatron to fully join the fray, but not before we lay the foundation for the grandest of entrances.

And, great question, Thomas! We on the editorial team work closely with Dan, Robert, and Josh to share materials and creative visions, in order to tie the Energon Universe together. We like to keep everyone abreast of what's happening to all our characters spread throughout the Energon Universe. (E.g. Bumblebee is, let's say, off the table for now haha.) That said, we also like to carve out lots of room for each creative team to flex their muscles on their respective books. Telling the stories they want to tell, how they want to tell them, while pinpointing strategic moments to create ripples across multiple series.

The coordination so far has been very smooth and I think the credit goes to Robert and the editorial team over at Skybound. They're keeping the logistics of everything

in line for us creatives as we meld our stories into something worth reading. Thanks for being here!



Hi Skybound Transformers team!

First things first, I know you're inundated with fan mail right now so I'll get straight to it:

Names for the Transformers letters section:

- THE ARKIVES (as in "The Ark" - The Autobot's spaceship). A place to store data (fan letters) from us fleshlings
- Alternatives - ARKIVES or THE ARK-IVE
- METAL MUSINGS (Musings - "a period of reflection or thought"... about big metal robots!
- METAL MAIL (To the point).

Lloyd Young

An Aussie Transformers fan living in L.A.

UH, METAL MAIL????? ANOTHER SOLID CONTENDER!!!

Great suggestions, Lloyd! Thanks for writing in!



Thanks again, Cybertronians! We'll see you here next month for issue #6 and the epic conclusion of the first story arc!!! And remember to hit your local comic shop next week to pick up COBRA COMMANDER #2!

-Jonathan

DEVASTATE! DEVASTATE! DEVASTATE!

-DWJ

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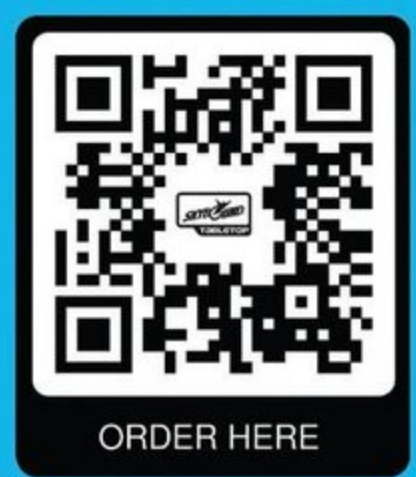
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